theCHITIMACHA NEWSLETTER

July 1998

"SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE CHITIMACHA"

Resolutions..... 2
Kops' Korner..... 3
Tribal Courts News..... 4
Toby's Notes..... 5
Human Services....6
Human Services (Cont.) & Dietary 7
Foot Care Tips..... 8
Fun Walk Notice 9
Contract Health Service Reminder & Culture Dept. News.....10
Child Care Survey.....11
Recreation News ..... 12&13
News from the Past .....14 & 15
Yard of the Month 16
A:O.A. Menu.....17
Bulletin Board..18

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NEWS*LETTER* EDITOR

Ted M. Darden

Greetings from the Chairman's Office,

Chairman Al LeBlanc

The month of June was a very busy and exciting month for our Nation. We found ourselves welcoming 18 of our young people to a new summer job and introducing them to the term "work ethic". They are into the last week of a 6 week activity plan and all seem happy to be a part of it. This has given them an opportunity to "learn and earn" during their summer vacation. It will undoubtedly impact their lives in the years to come more than they may realize today.

We also came out in astounding numbers to vote for three council positions. Two positions have been decided and there will be a runoff election for one other. I want to congratulate Peggy Gaddy, our Secretary/Treasurer, and Toby Darden, Council Member. I would further like to commend the other candidates for pursuing these elected offices with the utmost honor and integrity. I believe their interest and involvement is not only commendable but healthy for our tribal government.

On Sunday June 14th we gathered at the pavilion/park area for our annual Appreciation Day. Mother nature relented a bit, to our benefit, and sent a bit of cooler weather. We had a great turnout and outside a few glitches, like not having flatware at the start of the meal, we all enjoyed the day. I want to thank the volunteer scholars and numerous staff members for their complete support on this very busy and fun-filled day. We look forward to next year.

I want to send condolences to the family of Ms. Helen Marcotte who passed on a few weeks ago. Ms Helen represented a maternal figure of kindness and beauty and will never be forgotten. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.

In closing today, I want to take this opportunity to invite you, our tribal and community members, to come and visit our tribal offices for any governmental assistance you may need. Our departments are set up to meet your needs and would welcome the opportunity to do so. I was much encouraged to see good attendance at the last Tribal Council meeting and look forward to that continued interest. Feedback and commentary serve as a great tool of guidance for the Council and I trust that I speak for the entire Tribal Council when I say thank you. Until next time, may harmony reign.

AL

Tribal Council Resolutions
for Month of June 1998

CHI-TC#21-98
Accepts a revised drawing of the plat of the Reservation.

CHI-TC#22-98
Authorization for a residential land lease.

CHI-TC#23-98
Authorization for signing documents pertaining to contracts and grants for the School.

CHI-TC#24-98
Renews an Attorney's Contract.

CHI-TC#25-98
Authorization to enter into an agreement for the purpose of mitigating a 14 acre wetland on tribal property.

CHI-TC#26-98
Authorization to to negotiate and sign an agreement for architecual and engineering services for the Assisted Living Facility.

CHI-TC#27-98
Authorization to execute documents in order to secure financing for the construction of the Assisted Living Facility.

Thank you to all tribal members who participated in the tribal elections. As a chosen Councilman, I again pledge to do my best to make decisions in the best interest of the entire Tribe. Thanks for the support.

Toby C. Darden

I would like to thank the people of the Chitimacha Tribe, who elected me in the recent election for Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribal Council. I pledge to you that I will do the utmost of my ability to fulfill the faith that you have placed in me. Thank you very much for your continued support.

Peggy Gaddy

REMINDER!!!

Please come out and cast your vote in the upcoming runoff election. The election will be on July 11, 1998. It is your **RIGHT** to be able to participate in the election process, so please exercise that right.

"Kop's Korner"
News from the Chitimacha Police Department
Frank McCloskey, Police Chief

JUNE 1998

WELCOME HOME KACEY BURGESS!
WE'RE GLAD TO HAVE YOU BACK!
THANKS RODNEY AND JULIE FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

The following traffic citations were issued for the month of June: 28 Speeding, 5 No Proof Of Insurance, 6 No Drivers License, 6 Stop Sign Violations, 5 Expired Inspection Stickers, 3 Expired License Plates, 3 Driving Under Suspension, 2 License Plate Not Displayed, 3 Lighting Requirements On Vehicles, 2 No Child Restraints, 2 Expired Registration On Boat Trailers, 1 Careless Driving, 1 Improper Display Of License Plate and 2 Seat Belt Not Worn. Also, one citation was issued for violation of ATV Tribal Codes. **Please note the police department has increased it's traffic enforcement, especially on Chitimacha Trail where there are no sidewalks or shoulders. The State Police and Sheriff's Office have also been strongly enforcing the traffic laws on the west end of Chitimacha Trail. We encourage everyone to please obey the traffic laws and to make sure that all requirements to operate a vehicle on the roadways are up to date.**

Six arrests were logged for the month of June on charges of possession of drugs (rock cocaine), disturbing the peace intoxicated, disorderly conduct, simple battery, outstanding warrant from the St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office for failure to appear on a simple battery charge, and an outstanding warrant from New Iberia Police Department for failure to appear .

REMINDER

TRIBAL CODE--OPERATION OF ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES
TITLE VII SECTION 902

(a) A person may not operate an all-terrain vehicle upon any roadway, or roadway shoulder in this jurisdiction.
(b) Any operator of an ATV may make a direct crossing of a roadway but such operator shall:

(1) First bring the ATV to a complete stop before crossing any roadway.
(2) Yield the right of way to any motor-vehicle or pedestrian.
(3) Cross the roadway only when such crossing can be made safely.

© A person may not operate an ATV in the following ways which are declared to be unsafe and a public nuisance.

(1) In any area which prohibits the use of ATV's as designated by the Tribal Council and so clearly marked.
(2) In a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the person or property of another or to cause injury or damage to such person or property.
(3) While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance.
(4) In any garden or tree nursery area, school area, business area or area not owned by the operator or his or her family (if a minor).

PENALTY: Any person violating this section shall be fined an amount not to exceed $250.00 and/or the ATV may be impounded and held until impoundment fee in the amount of $50.00 is paid.

NOTE: The Chief of Police and Tribal Police Officers have been very lenient when it comes to the use of ATV's on the roadways within our jurisdiction. Many individuals have been given warnings more than once. We understand that not everyone has the means of getting their ATV's to an open field to ride without being on the roadway, therefore, officers have not issued citations if the subject is riding slowly on the side of the road or on the shoulder of the road, but may have spoke to the subject to remind them of the tribal law pertaining to ATV's on the roadway. However, if you are operating your ATV wide open down the middle of the street (especially on Chitimacha Trail where traffic is heavier and there are no sidewalks or shoulders) and in such a manner that could cause injury or damage to property, then you must expect to be cited for the violation. Trying to elude, outrun, or hide from the police officer can only make matters worse. Officers, as well as enforcing the ATV laws, also has your *safety* in mind.
Parents please advise your children of the ATV Codes and the importance of safety. Also, if you or your children are interested in taking an ATV Safety Course please contact Ofc. Mike Pontiff at the Chitimacha Police Department, 923-4964.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!!!

TRIBAL COURT NEWS
By Shirleen B. Fitzgerald, Tribal Courts Director

CURRENT COURT STATISTICS:

JUNE

CASES: (73)
6 Civil Actions (5 Garnishments/ 1 Personal Injury Tort); 3 Domestic Actions (1 Petition for Voluntary Transfer of Custody/1 Petition for Disbursement of Funds/1 Petition For Guardianship); 61 Traffic (Civil Infractions); 3 Criminal (2 Class A Misdemeanors/1 Class B Misdemeanor)

MORTGAGES AND LIENS: (24)
Assignments

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS: (01)
Cash Sale

COURT OF APPEALS: (00)

TOTAL ACTIONS PROCESSED IN JUNE (98)

CASES PENDING AS OF JUNE 1, 1998:
TRIAL COURT: (41)

- **13 CIVIL** (12Torts/6Reg.Civil)
- **03 CRIMINAL** (Class A)
- **03 DOMESTIC RELATIONS**
- **14 JUVENILE**
- **07 TRAFFIC**
- **01 CRIMINAL TRAFFIC**

APPELLATE COURT: (00)

COURT SESSIONS:

TRIBAL TRIAL COURT:
This month's regular session was conducted on June 9, 1998, at which time 21 matters were scheduled to be heard;

- **(03) JUVENILE**
  (2 Review Hearings/1 Fact-Finding Hearing)
- **(02) CRIMINAL**
  (1 Arraignment/1 Trial)
- **(09) TRAFFIC**
  (8 Hearings on CV Infractions/1 Criminal Traffic)
- **(03) DOMESTIC RELATIONS**
  (Hearings on Petition For Change in Custody)
- **(04) CIVIL TORT ACTIONS**
  (1 Status Conference/2 Preliminary Hearings)

SPECIAL SESSIONS:
There were 4 Special Sessions conducted in June. The first being held on June 2, 1998 at which time 4 Juvenile matters (1 Initial Hearing/3 Dispositional Hearings) were heard; the second being held on June 5, 1998 at which time 1 Criminal matter (Arraignment) was heard; the third being held on June 16, 1998 at which time 3 Juvenile matters (Fact-Finding Hearings) were heard; and the fourth being held on June 19, 1998 at which time 3 Criminal matters (2 Arraignments/1 Sentencing Hearing) and 1 Traffic matter (Hearing on Civil Infraction) were heard.

NEXT REGULAR SESSION:
Our next regular session is scheduled for July 14, 1998, with open session beginning at 10:00 a.m.

* *

As always, if you would like any further information regarding the Tribal Courts, please feel free to contact the Court at 923-7806; or come by anytime. Our regular office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday.

Tribal Administration

notes from the desk of Toby Darden, CAO

This month I would like to give a brief update on the projects on and around the reservation.

Elderly Assisted Living, The paperwork for the loan has been completed. With the preliminary drawing nearly complete, the Tribal Council has approved the Architect and is negotiating his contract for the development of the construction plans.

New Reservation Lots, The sewer service project for the new reservation subdivision is taking longer than we anticipated, therefore delaying the release of the new lots. We are now anticipating that the lots will be ready in late August. We will contact those individuals who are waiting to move in as soon as possible to come select their homesite lots.

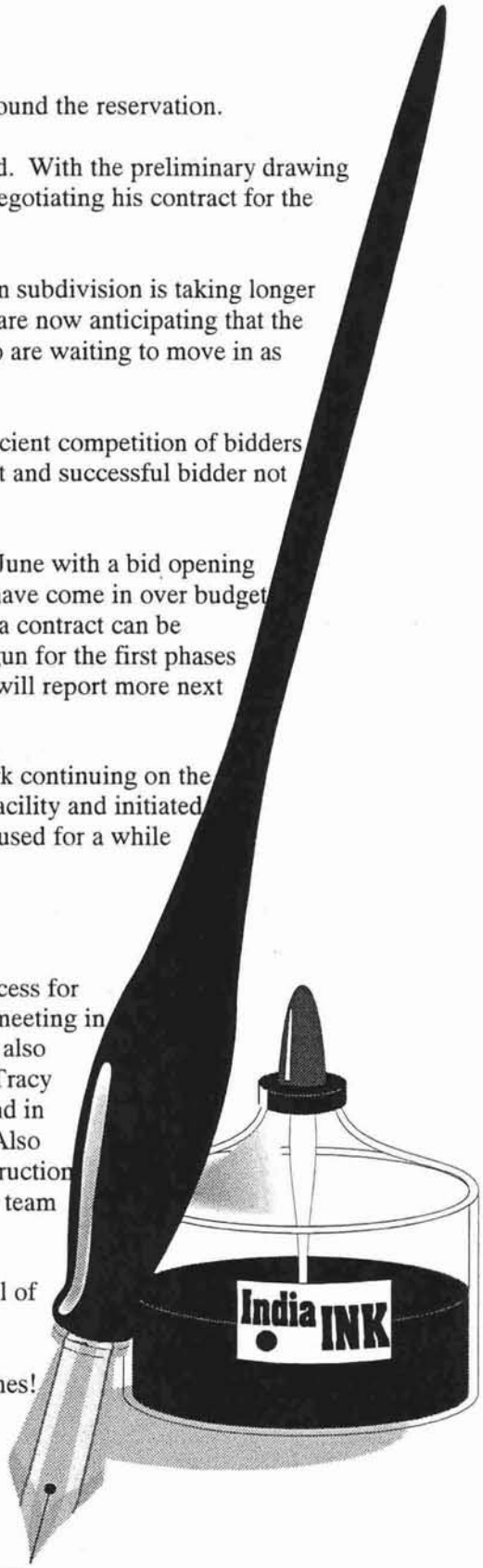
Tribal Courts, The Tribal Courts project was rebid due to a lack of sufficient competition of bidders in the first round. The second bid opening was on July 7th with the cost and successful bidder not known at printing time.

Raintree Village, The Ralph Darden Memorial Parkway was bid out in June with a bid opening on July 1 at the St. Mary Parish Court house. The parkway appears to have come in over budget but the Engineers are still evaluating the bids to verify this. Hopefully, a contract can be awarded within the next month. Also, the preliminary planning has begun for the first phases in developing the housing and commercial areas in Raintree Village. I will report more next month on this development.

Health Clinic, The site engineering has been completed, along with work continuing on the construction drawings. We have also identified the equipment for the facility and initiated its procurement. It looks like the ball park can probably continue to be used for a while longer.

New Recreation Grounds, planning and design continues.

Administration, we are preparing for the FY'99 budget formulation process for each program funded by the Tribe. We had our quarterly general staff meeting in mid June. The meeting was very informative and fun for our staff. We also would like to welcome several new employees: Charlene Blanchard & Tracy Cormier in Finance, Norma Higgins in Health Department, Don Aymond in Planning, Suzette Armentor at School, John Bobbitt in Public Works. Also we would like to say goodbye to Bruce Burgess who has taken up construction work locally, and Oneil Darden, and Tessa Darden who have joined the team at Cypress Bayou Casino. Also we would like to congratulate Brenda Clements for being selected to take Ms Ann Olds position at CECHP (the employee insurance office). Good luck and continued success to all of you.



Till next month, best wishes!

Sincerely,
Toby C. Darden

Study Finds Drug Treatment Highly Effective

A major review of more than 600 peer research articles, plus original data analyses, show conclusively that drug addiction treatment is very effective and that it works as well as other established medical treatments for illnesses such as diabetes, asthma and hypertension. The study also compared the outcome of treatment of a drug addict with imprisonment and found that treatment is an effective anti-crime measure and less costly than prison.

These improved outcomes include greatly reduced medical costs to society, returning many more drug addicts to normal, healthy lifestyles and gainful employment, major crime reductions and savings that would otherwise be spent on new prisons and law enforcement.

The bad news is that most Americans do not yet understand how well drug treatment works. Another new study released in the March 18 edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association, found diminishing public support for drug treatment, and increased support for "more severe penalties for the possession and sale of drugs." The JAMA study by Robert Blendon, Sc.D.,of the Harvard School of Public Health, says that 78% of Americans "see the War on Drugs as having failed thus far..." According to Dr. Blendon's study, "public support for increased spending for drug treatment has declined from a high of 65% in 1990 to 53% in 1996."

The study, sponsored by Physician Leadership on National Drug Policy, includes the following five components:

Myths and Facts about Drug Use and Addiction
The major, false stereotype is that all drug addicts are social misfits and outcasts even though drug use is common through all segments of society. In reality the "typical" American family is greatly impacted by addiction, and those family members can have their lives turned around by entering treatment. Unfortunately, stigma is a barrier to those who would otherwise seek treatment, to doctors who would otherwise do more in treating addiction, and to legislators and public health officials who would otherwise do more to make treatment available.

Prevalence and Costs of Addiction Relative to Other Chronic Diseases
The economic impact of addictions, including lost productivity, medical and other costs is greater than any other chronic medical condition. However drug treatment greatly reduces all these costs. Improvements in employment status and in work productivity, in addition to medical savings, far outweigh the costs of drug treatment.

Drug addiction is a chronic health problem like heart disease, diabetes, smoking, alcoholism, and stroke. As with these other health problems, behaviors such as diet, exercise and taking medications appropriately, affect the natural progression and treatment outcomes of drug addiction.

Is Drug Dependence a Treatable Medical Illness?
Drug dependence meets the criteria for a treatable, chronic medical condition and is as consistently diagnosable as other illnesses. Just as important, addiction treatment has outcomes comparable to other chronic conditions.

The heritability, or estimate of genetic contribution for addictions is comparable to that of hypertension, diabetes, and asthma.

Comparisons of medication and behavioral compliance reveal that addicted patients have compliance rates comparable to patients receiving treatment for diabetes, asthma and hypertension. In fact the likelihood of requiring additional treatment within a 12 month period is generally higher for diabetes, hypertension and asthma than for drug addiction.

Cost-Effectiveness of Drug Treatment

Among a list of more than 500 health and life saving measures, addiction treatment consistently ranks among the top 10%. Compared to other chronic conditions, additional professional services to enhance maintenance of recovery are among the most cost-effective forms of treatment.

In addition to considerable savings in short and long term medical treatments, major savings to the individual and society also come from significant decreases in interpersonal conflicts, various types of accidents, crime and assaults.

Returns on Drug Addiction Treatment Investments

Alcohol and drug addiction make a major contribution to the incidence and severity of a wide range of medical conditions, such as certain forms of cancer, pancreatitis, endocarditis, injury and AIDS.

Although addicted persons are among the highest users of medical care, only 5% to 10% of these costs are due to addiction treatment. The rest is attributed to medical problems that are most often the result of, or triggered by the addiction. However addiction treatment produces marked reductions in medical care utilization and costs. While reduced health care costs are impressive, even larger savings can be made in other areas. The most dramatic return is the effectiveness of drug addiction treatment in reducing the occurrence and costs relating to crime.

Source: Metropolitan Atlanta Council on Alcohol and Drugs

Wake Up To Diabetes Prevention
By Leslie G. Fontenot, Dietitian

Did you know that during the years of 1900 to 1910, there was only one documented case of diabetes mellitus among Native Americans. It wasn't until 1967 that the explosion to diabetes began among the Native American population. Some researchers attribute this "explosion" to the rapid transition of Native Americans onto reservations. During this rapid transition onto reservations, Native Americans experienced drastic changes in dietary habits, activity, and better control of infectious diseases. Better control of infectious diseases meant that Native Americans began living longer.

Some physicians and researchers believe that Diabetes among some Native Americans may be inevitable. What is not inevitable is the prevention of complications and disabilities that result from delayed detection and poor medical management of diabetes. These long term complications include heart disease, kidney disease, and lower extremity amputations.

Did you know that most people who have diabetes die of heart disease. In the united states, the incidence of heart disease in decreasing but the incidence among Native Americans is increasing. This is due to the increasing incidence of diabetes among Native Americans and the often late detection and efforts at management.

By getting screened you can begin making some proactive decisions about your health. If the screening suggest that you may have diabetes, you can begin getting the education and medical attention necessary. If the screening suggest that you do not have diabetes, then you have that information for your health care planning needs.

The international diabetes center recommends that everyone be screened every 3 years starting at age 45. If risk factors are present, such as a native american ancestry, then screening should begin at age 30 and should be repeated annually.

The Chitimacha Heath Department will have a diabetes screening on Wednesday, July 15, from 7 to 9 am. This will be held at the Chitimacha Health Department. The goal is to help you with early detection and prevention of diabetes. Please come fasting which means having nothing to eat or drink after midnight on Tuesday, July 14. After being screened, the Health Department invites you to stay and enjoy breakfast and conversation. There will be free prizes for everyone who gets screened. There will also be free recipes and nutrition/ diabetes information.

If you have any questions please call Pat at 923-9955.

10 FOOT CARE TIPS FOR PEOPLE WITH DIABETES

A person with diabetes may have foot problems. Foot problems can lead to the loss of a toe,foot, or a leg. Loss of a toe, foot, or leg is called an amputation. Good foot care can prevent most amputations. Listed below are 10 foot care tips to help people prevent foot problems:

1. **Wash your feet daily** with lukewarm water and soap.
2. **Dry your feet well,** especially between the toes.
3. **Keep the skin supple** with a moisturizing lotion, but do not apply it between the toes.
4. **Check your feet** for blisters, cuts or sores. Tell your doctor if you find something wrong .
5. **Use emery board** to shape toenails even with ends of your toes.
6. **Change daily into clean, soft socks or stockings,** not too big or too small.
7. **Keep your feet warm and dry.** Preferably wear special padded socks and always wear shoes that fit well.
8. **Never walk barefoot** indoors or outdoors.
9. **Examine your shoes every day** for cracks, pebbles, nails or anything that could hurt your feet.
10. **Take good care of your feet - *and use them!* A brisk walk every day stimulates the circulation.**

STOP DIABETES IN ITS TRACKS!!!!!

On July 28,1998 the Chitimacha Health Department has planned a Morning Fun Walk to be held at the Fitness Center from 6:30AM to 8:00AM. Also to be included are:

- **FREE DIABETIC FOOT SCREENINGS**
- **FREE REFRSHMENTS**
- **FREE PRIZES TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATE**
- **FREE DIABETES/FOOT CARE INFORMATION**

** Remember to wear your walking shoes and comfortable clothing!*

STOP DIABETES IN IT'S TRACKS!!!
ITS ALL UP TO YOU

Morning Fun Walk and Foot Screenings

When? - Tuesday, July 28, 1998
Time? - 6:30 a.m. - 8 a.m.
Where? - AOA (Senior Center)

Free Foot Screening

Free Refreshments

Free Prizes to all who particpate

Free Diabetes/Foot Care Information

*** Remember to wear your walking shoes/clothes**

Contract Health Service
By Madeline Phelps

REMINDERS:

You must obtain a purchase order "form" from the Contract Medical Care office for each visit to your physician, hospital, or other health care provider prior to your visit. You have 72 hours to notify the health department if you receive emergency services.

Medicare clients will be required to utilize providers that accept Medicare assignment. If you are not sure whether your provider accepts Medicare, call Mildred Darden for that information. Dr. Carl Ditch's office does not accept Medicare assignment. If Dr. Ditch is your physician, please call Mildred to find out what other physicians are available to provide your health care.

Bring your Medicare/insurance explanations to the CMC office as soon as possible. We do not receive correspondence from your insurance company or from Medicare. Your medical bills are not paid until we receive the EOB, (explanation of benefits) from you. If you are requesting that the health department pay the balance on your medical bills, you will be required to bring this information to the CMS office in a timely manner.

Cultural Department News
By Kimberly S. Walden, M. Ed.

The month of June was a busy with travel to U.S.E.T. Culture and Heritage Committee meetings and travel to the Annual Keepers of the Treasures Conference. These organizations focus on cultural preservation issues, which make these meetings interesting and informative.

Tim Mueller and Sarah Sue Goldsmith are working on a book on the Federally Recognized Louisiana Tribes to be published through LSU Press. I will be working with them on this project by setting up opportunities for Tim Mueller to take photographs of Tribal members and scheduling interviews with Elders for Sarah Sue Goldsmith to get information for this book. This project will take much time and effort for all involved, but it is a wonderful project that is long overdue. Please contact the department if your family is having any type of gathering that Mr. Mueller could possibly photograph. Your assistance is appreciated.

This month we also held the June summer beadwork classes for the children. All of the children did a great job and should be proud of their work. In July, we will hold the next beadwork classes for the youth that have enrolled.

Language packets containing Lessons in Chitimacha: Book 1 with cassette and A Chitimacha Word- Finder were mailed to every Chitimacha household. We have been encouraged by the response to these materials. We like to hear how everyone is using and enjoying these materials. Any suggestions on how we can facilitate the learning process are always welcome.

Anyone interested in attending language classes should call the department to sign up or come in on Tuesday or Thursday nights for classes, beginning on July 7, 1998. Classes will be held from 6:00 to 7:30. Tuesday classes are for adults and Thursday classes are for the teenagers 13 and up.

The Cultural Department is in the process of setting up a consistent schedule for week –nights and Saturdays. Classes on beadwork, language, pottery, moccasins, dance/drumming, leather crafts, and Chitimacha History are being scheduled. Anyone interested in participating or anyone who has ideas for additional classes that they would like to see offered should call the department at 923-9923.

NOTICE !!!!!!

The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana is doing a study to determine the feasibility of developing a Child Care System on the reservation. In order to make an accurate assessment of the need, we need to have input from you as parents of the children who would utilize such a facility. Would you please take a few moments to complete this questionnaire, so that we can make an accurate determination of the need for Child Care on the reservation. We are looking at needs for full time care for ages 0 - 3 and after school care for ages 4 - 12. The Questionnaire is completely anonymous and only the relevant statistical data will be used. When you have completed the questionnaire, please return it to the Tribal Office. The questionnaire will be forwarded to the planning department for analysis. If you are unable to complete the questionnaire or know someone who is interested, Please call the Tribal Office at 923-4973 and ask for Don Aymond, ext. 3010. Thanks for your help.

Do you think a Child Care Facility is needed on the Reservation? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you a tribal member? ___ Yes ___ No

Do you have children in your home between 0 - 12 years? ___ Yes ___ No

How many and their ages and gender: _____ Number of Children

Age	Gender	Attend School	Grade	Need Tutoring
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Who in your family is employed? ___ One Parent ___ Both Parents

Are you a tribal employee? ___ Yes ___ No

Total Family Income

___ 0 - 5000 ___ 5001 - 10,000 ___ 10,001 - 15,000

___ 15,001 - 20,000 ___ 20,001 - 25,000 ___ 25,001 - 30,000

___ 30,001 - 35,000 ___ 35,001 - 40,000 ___ 40,001 - 45,000

___ 45,001 - 50,000 ___ 50,001 - 55,000 ___ Over 55,000

Do you think that there should be tutoring services available to students who participate in the program and are in need of those services? ___ Yes ___ No

Do you think there should be a cultural component? ___ Yes ___ No

Would you be willing to volunteer your help in this project? ___ Yes ___ No

Comments: _____

_____

_____

_____

Thanks for taking the time to fill out the questionnaire. Please get the completed questionnaire back to us as soon as possible. Time is creeping up on us if we are to try to secure such a project.....Thanks!!

Recreation News
By Billy & Jeri St.Blanc

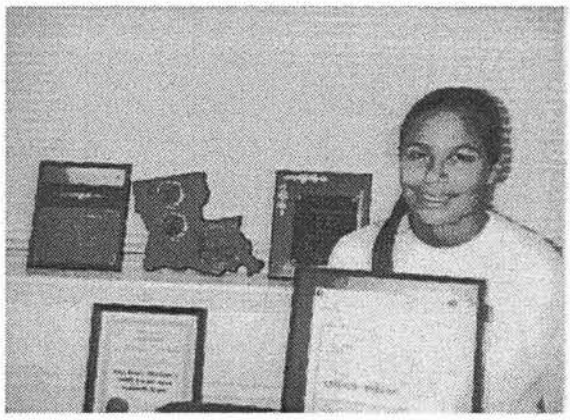
June was dry and boring for most of South Louisiana but not so at Chitimacha - it was wet and wild. Swimming lessons were a huge success. It is really gratifying to see so many kids learning to swim at such young ages. Not only are these kids learning to survive in the water, but actually learning strokes and techniques that will carry them throughout their life. More and more adults are using the pool and also becoming more water conscious. With water walking in the morning, adult lessons, and water aerobics in the afternoons more and more are becoming involved.

High School Students that could not participate in swimming lessons will be able to take lessons on July 13th at 10:30 a.m..The class will be offered to high school students who would like to join the swim team. It will focus on teaching the students their strokes.

Swim team practice begins **July 6th at 9:30.** Practices will be scheduled on a weekly basis depending on the recreation schedule. Rebecca Martin, Amy Vilcan and Monique Darden have offered to help with the team. July 11-12 we plan on attending a swim meet at Vermilion Hills as spectators.

We are proud to say that our little league team continued the end of their season as they did in the beginning -- ***winning***. When all the dust settled, we won the league with an unprecedented 11-1 record. Two teams were tied for second with records of 8-4. Now begins the post season. From our Little League team several players were asked to continue in All Star formats. They were ***Nick Persilver, Zeb LeBlanc, Robert Brown, Blaise St.Blanc, Ben Darden, Brandon Darden*** and ***Slade Bobbitt. Grant LaGarde*** will be playing for the Jeanerette Little League All Star team as a result of another outstanding season he turned in for his team. Grant, along with Nick and Zeb will be playing the week of July 10th in an advance type tournament to be held in Baldwin and New Iberia. Slade and Brandon's team will be playing in Lafayette in the same type tournament beginning the same weekend. The others are played in a Tournament of Champions 10 team tournament held in New Iberia. They finished the post season with a 3-2 record and a solid 3rd Place. Robert Brown's play at shortstop was so impressive in a 1-0 victory over the Lafayette Little League, that the umpire gave him the game ball. Girls softball, T-Ball seasons have also come to an end. ***Jaime Darden, Ashley Burgess, April Cook*** are extending their seasons by participating in a State Tournament in Sulphur starting July 11th. Ashley's team won the Baldwin League. Also completing their Rookie season in that league were ***Morgan Martin*** and ***Tasia Bernard.***

We are proud of **Nikina Vilcan** as she finished her softball career at Franklin High with honors. Nikina was not only Valedictorian but also MVP, Academic All State, Daily Iberian All Area, and All State Composite. Congratulations!



Nikina Vilcan

Golf is in full swing having three practices at Broken Pine and two tournaments - one in Abbeville and the other in Cade. As the temperature soars, the scores are beginning to fall. We will also be leaving the fitness room at 8:00 AM each Wednesday in the month of July to play at Broken Pine. It's for Juniors, but we need adults to play with them, so if you can, please take a break and come play a round with the kids. Help wanted!

Several kids are going to camp. Brandt Johnson and Ben Clements are heading for Dixie Basketball Camp in Summit, Mississippi along with several boys from local schools. It is one of the best camps around. Hopefully next year we'll have more to go.

Chelsey and Shannon Cook are going to the LSU Lady Tigers Basketball Camp. I spent many summers at the same camp so I am certain they will learn a lot and have a great time.

ATTENTION KIDS: If you're looking for something to do, the school gym is open for activities. The gym will be open on Mondays through Fridays at 9:00- 11:00 A.M. and 1:00-4:00 P.M. with supervision. The pool is open everyday with lifeguards except SUNDAYS. On Sundays we will be open from 1:00-7:00 P.M. for Family Swimming.

HERSHEY TRACK AND FIELD STATE MEET was held at Lafayette High June 27th. We had a lot of kids that missed the meet because of illness but the ones that made it did extremely well. Chelsey Cook out threw everyone in the 11-12 year old softball throw. Matthew Darden tied for 1st in the long jump, 7th in the softball throw and 5th in the 400 meter run. **Arielle Darden** won the long jump, placed 4th in the 400 meter run and 5th in the softball throw. Arielle's long jump will be compared with all the states in our region. If selected she will be invited to the National Meet in Hershey Pennsylvania. Brandt Johnson placed 7th in the long jump. Adrianna Bernard finished 5th in the 50 meter dash.

Senior's Exercise and Water Walking Class began with success June 22. Seniors exercise on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:00 - 9:00 A.M. Anyone interested, please call or just join us. Stephanie Eddlemon and Jamie Darden are shown below assisting Shirley Bernard, Helen Mora, Hazel Bernard and Gert Eddlemon.

Thanks goes out to the young workers this summer. Good job on the weeding around the building and cleaning the van. Thanks!!!

Scuba Classes are still in the plans. As soon as we get it set up, we'll let you know.

Until next month.....

NEWS FROM THE PAST
By: Melanie Marcotte

Caroline Dorman, anthropologist, visited and completed ethnographic studies with the Chitimacha people in the 1930's. On file here in the Research Department's Archives are copies of letters written to Ms. Dorman by Pauline Paul and Christine Paul, which were acquired from the Cammie Henry Research Center in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The following is an article which Ms. Dorman wrote for *Holland's, "The Magazine of the South", October 1931.* This article is also on file here in the Tribal archives.

THE LAST OF THE CANE BASKET MAKERS
By: Caroline Dorman

From the bridge at the village of Charenton, one looks up Bayou Teche to a sweeping curve. Old, old live oaks peer out from beneath their shaggy locks of moss, as if to say: "What know you of man and things? Here today and gone tomorrow! We were here when life moved softly by in pirogues on this bayou; now it roars and rushes past on a hard white highway."

When the first French settlers came to this part of Louisiana, they found it inhabited by a tribe of peaceful Indians, the Chitimacha - or Ćetimacha, as the French called them. How long had they been there? Ask those who are left today. "Always," they answer simply. Theirs was once a great nation, but now only a tiny remnant survives. No need to ask why they have disappeared. Like most of our primitive peoples, they could not withstand the rude shock of contact with our civilization. This part of Bayou Teche is still known as Indian Bend, and on these curving banks there live the few that are left of this ancient tribe.

As they had fixed habitations, the Chitimacha gave much time to cultivating the soil and developing the domestic arts. The women made everything that was needed in their daily life. From Indian hemp, a common weed, and the inside bark of mulberry, they wove a strong cloth. From these same materials they made ropes and packet carriers. But in the weaving of baskets, they displayed the greatest skill. Their basketry reached such a degree of development that it might well be classed among the higher arts. Most remarkable of all, they still retain this art.

Today, cane baskets are made in several localities in the South, and by real Indians; but, sad to say, most of the makers have surrendered to the modern demand for speed of production, and thus cheapened their wares. Usually commercial dyes are used for coloring - the old way is too tedious. But modern dyes do not give to the cane the rich hues obtained from barks and roots. In addition to this, they fade much more quickly. The ancient painstaking methods of weaving have generally been abandoned. Not so with the Chitimacha! What strange pride of race has held this remnant of a tribe true to their ideals, to unchanging standards, through all the wearing down of contact with alien peoples?

The Chitimacha woman still goes to the bayou bank and cuts her green canes, strips them, and brings them home. This is hard work, but it is only the beginning. Seated on a bench, she holds a four-foot length of the reed in her bare hands and, with a quick twist of the wrists, splits it open. Now, ripe cane is very hard, but with the aid of her teeth, she divides it into smaller strips. When all are the right width, she takes a sharp knife and splits them the flat way, making them very thin.

The dyeing is the most interesting part of the process. One feels that age-old, mystic rites play a part here. And one should never make the mistake of hurrying the craftsman. There will be no argument, only a still look from calm eyes, maybe a little smile, but somehow the one-in-a-hurry feels rebuked. The cane splints must lie out in the sun and dew for eight days and nights, when they are ready to be dyed. No manufactured dyes for these devotees of old ways! Besides the natural greenish tan of the dry cane, they have three colors: dark brown, red and yellow, all of which blend into the most harmonious combinations.

To produce the brown, they boil the cane splints with black walnut hulls for a few minutes. For red and yellow, they dig the root of the *po-wah-ahsh-* that is the way it sounds as they say it. This is a species of a plant commonly called dock, which grows in abundance along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico. When yellow is desired, the cane is boiled with this root, alone; but red requires more labor. The splints must be soaked in lime water for eight days, then dyed with *po-wah-ahsh,* when a rich red is obtained. In the days before pure lime could be procured, the Indians gathered shells from the shore, burned and crushed them, and used this home product.

This is the ancient method, slow, tedious; but the results justify the means. Those exquisite baskets! How strange that these people should have retained what so many others have lost! For hundreds of years-perhaps thousands-these Indian women have gone to the swamps for canes, dug roots for dyes, and carried heaving loads of shells from lake or Gulf. With patient care they have worked out their intricate patterns. And today, the daughters of their race take a deep pride in clinging to the old way, which has become almost a ritual. They scorn those who have fallen into the lax methods of modern times.

The patterns are lovely, and there are dozens of them. Each has a name, and nothing better demonstrates the whimsical imagination of the Indian. Perhaps, in the long ago, each had its origin in some myth or legend. There is *napshkahkiti*, "Turtle's Necklace"-and it does resemble a looped string of beads. Delightful, too, is Bear's Earrings. The reasons for the naming of Rabbit Teeth, Mouse Track, Blackbird Eyes, and Worm Track are a little more obvious. A large white circle with a round dark center is Cow Eyes. A beautiful winding pattern is *naxiua-ahki* - "Alligator Entrails"!

Originally, no doubt, baskets were solely utilitarian objects, and even yet many are made for specific purposes. These people still use a sifter made of cane; also, a flat, closely woven basket for winnowing the home-grown rice. A *ki-ki-ti,* large and sievelike, was used in olden time for gathering clams, a staple article of diet. It held the clams while the water ran through. Probably the tall basket, larger at the bottom so as not to upset easily, was a receptacle for grain; but we can only guess at that. In the little trunk-shaped ones, with the tight fitting lids, various small treasures were kept.

In the early days, women also wove beautiful mats of cane in the same decorative patterns. These were used for floor and wall coverings, and also on couches.

Toll-driven Indian women had time to make articles of utility only. That they made them also works of art speaks strongly for their innate love of beauty. They longed for color-they searched until they found a way to produce it. Their sense of rhythm expressed itself in the working out of intricate flowing patterns.

The Chitimacha specialty is the making of double-walled baskets, and in this their art has reached its peak of development. With very fine splints, the maker begins at the bottom, inside, works up to the top; turns back down and weaves the outside, finishing at the bottom. With deft, quick motions, the left-over ends of splints are broken off, leaving a smooth finish. When completed, it is impossible to detect a beginning or an ending, so perfect is the workmanship. Even the lid is doubled throughout. They make these exquisite articles in many shapes and sizes, some of which are used for cigarette cases.

At one time, nearly all Southern Indians made these double-walled cane baskets. It is now almost a lost art. It is said that the last Cherokee woman who made them died in 1896. Among Choctaws and others, the practice seems to have ceased at about the same time. So far as the writer has been able to learn, only these half dozen Chitimacha women on the Teche preserve this charming ancient art.

Probably even they would have lost faith and given up for lack of appreciation, had it not been for the interest and encouragement of Miss Sarah McIlhenny and her sister Mrs. Sidney Bradford of Avery Island. They helped these Indian women to market their baskets, and befriended them in many ways.

This tiny Indian village is like a quiet backwater, surrounded by the surge of modern progress. The modest little houses are set well back from the highway, in a perfect forest of trees. These people live calm, simple lives. French is their language of today, but entirely un-French are their mannerisms.

They meet the stranger politely, but that is all. It is left with the newcomer to prove himself. It is only after winning to the "inner gates" - and this is not so quickly done - that one finds intelligence, humor, and friendliness. After knowing them and seeing their work, one can but breathe a prayer that modernism may never touch them.

Yard of the Month News
By Carolyn B. Savage

July is a month of celebration!!! This month we want to congratulate Paula and Todd Martin of 168 Tunica Drive as the winners for July . The pond, lights, outdoor decorations and assorted plants and flowers has certainly turned your yard into quite a beautiful place.

It's obvious you have put a lot of time and effort into beautifying your yard. As the winners for this month we want to present your $100 cash, a plaque for you to keep and our yard of the month sign. The sign will remain in your yard until the first weekend of August..

This committee would like to thank all of you for keeping your lawns mowed and for doing whatever you can do to make our community more attractive. Keeping up with our yard work during this terrible heat wave has certainly been trying for all of us but I want to encourage you all to keep up the good work.

TIPS FROM RACHEL

First of all, thank God for the rain!!! I would like to apologize for last month's artricle. There was supposed to be an insect identification chart included. If you are interested in getting a chart, Ms. Carolyn will have some available at the cultural department.

Fire ants are becoming a problem in flower beds and in our lawns. According to research, for every mound you see above ground there are 2-5 mounds that are near completion below ground .New mounds tend to appear 7-10 days following thunderstorms as rainful disturbs existing mounds and causes migration. Fire ant bites are extremly painful , can leave scars in severe cases and can cause allergic reactions in some people. Now that the kids are off for the summer months, let's keep a lookout for these ant mounds. We need to poison the mounds properly and carefully following the directions on the package.

'Til next month...

CHITIMACHA SENIOR PROGRAM CALENDAR
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE
JULY 1998

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		JULY 1, 1998 **BREAKFAST** Smothered Meatballs, Green Beans, Rice, Rolls, Salad, & Cake Activity: Lil Bingo	**JULY 2, 1998** Grilled Chicken, Macaroni n Cheese, Corn, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert Activity: Shopping	**JULY 3, 1998** **OFFICE CLOSED 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY**
JULY 6, 1998 Beef Roast, Rice, Field Peas, Salad, Asparagus, Rolls & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 7, 1998** Fried Pork Chops, Red Beans, Rice, Broccoli, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 8, 1998** Groundmeat Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 9, 1998** Smothered Chicken, Rice, Blackeye Peas, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Shopping	**JULY 10, 1998** Fried Fish, Hush Puppies, Salad, Rolls & Dessert
JULY 13, 1998 Fried Chicken, Creamed Potatoes, Sweet Peas, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 14, 1998** Smothered Steak, Rice, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 15, 1998** **BREAKFAST** Meatloaf, Cheese Potatoes, Corn, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity** Reg Bingo	**JULY 16, 1998** Pork Roast, Rice, Lima Beans, Squash, Rolls, & Desert **Activity:** Shopping	**JULY 17, 1998** Tuna Fish, Fish Sticks, Salad, Rolls & Dessert
JULY 20, 1998 Chicken Stew, Rice, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 21, 1998** Pork Ribs, Parsley Potatoes, Cabbage, Rolls, & Desert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 22, 1998** **BREAKFAST** Meatballs w/ Tomato Gravy, Rice, White Beans, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 23, 1998** Baked Turkey, Rice Dressing, Corn, Yams, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Shopping	**JULY 24, 1998** Fried Shrimp, Hush Puppies, Tator Tots, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert
JULY 27, 1998 Beef Stew, Rice, Corn, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 28, 1998** Baked Turkey, Rice Dressing, Yams, Broccoli, Rolls, & Desert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**JULY 29, 1998** **BREAKFAST** Pork Chops, Cheese Potatoes, Corn, Salad, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Lil Bingo	**June 30, 1998** Chicken Stew, Rice, White Beans, Squash, Rolls, & Dessert **Activity:** Shopping	

JULY 1998 BIRTHDAYS

Larry Burgess	*July 6*	*Charles Johnson, Jr.*	*July 3*	*Harold Darden*	*July 11*
John Bobbitt	*July 17*	*Annis Lee Burgess*	*July 19*	*Janet Martin*	*July 20*
Geneieve Zook	*July 23*				

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU AND HAVE MANY MORE!!

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Debbie @ 318 923-4973 to place an Ad

Announcing the birth of
Micah Bothe' Dronet
(8 lbs. 2 oz. - 21 inches),
born to
Lise Stewart Dronet and Tony Dronet
on 6/19/98.

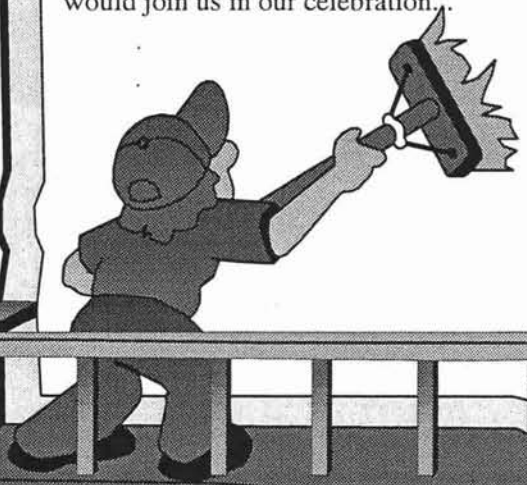
A LONG AWAITED END FOR A BEAUTIFUL BEGINNING

Five years ago, I brought my 2 year old daughter to Ochsner Hospital in New Orleans. We were told that she had Leukemia! Scared to death not knowing what any of our futures held, she began her long and very difficult battle.

With the type of Leukemia Breyonna was diagnosed with, along with having a serious pre-existing heart condition, her prognosis, to say the least, was very poor.

Most people, hearing of Breyonna's illness, pulled together each in their own special way. There was a barbeque fundraiser, a blood drive and most importantly **PRAYERS...** prayers from the youngest child to the oldest adult. Well Breyonna is testimony enough... **GOD ANSWERED!!!**

On Sunday July 26, 1998, we will be celebrating her 5 year remission. Those of you who are not familiar with what that is, it is an incredible goal to reach. At 60 months (5 years) you are considered cured of your disease. Reccurence is possible but unlikely. We would be greatful if you would join us in our celebration.



Chitimacha Park Pavilion
Sunday, July 26, 1998
4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Thank You All Once Again
Aimee Vilcan and Family